

**From:** James Brundege  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/13/01 10:25pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement.

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I would like to comment on the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement. It is my understanding that the settlement requires Microsoft to disclose information on their APIs, protocols, etc. to competing businesses, but that this requirement does not extend to non-profits and government agencies. This is a critical problem with the settlement as proposed! As a developer of bioinformatics software for the scientific community, I develop free and open source software that fills critical scientific niches. This work is paid for by government grants. This type of software is critical for the research community, and it, like most software, must interact with systems operating under the Windows OS. This has become increasingly difficult as open standards have been ignored to generate a competitive advantage. If non-profits, universities, and other sources of free software are locked out of the settlement agreement it will impede our ability to produce these niche programs. This will ultimately harm major government directives in bioinformatics and other areas.

I thus request that you reject the Microsoft settlement as proposed.

Please reconsider the settlement to include provisions to give non-profits and other organizations the same competitive rights and the same access to Microsoft APIs and protocols that businesses are guaranteed in the current settlement.

Thanks you,

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